

Message

From: Cirian, Mike [Cirian.Mike@epa.gov]
Sent: 4/8/2016 4:42:12 PM
To: TStoops@mt.gov; lidewitt@mt.gov; COwen@mt.gov
Subject: Fwd: Hot Topic

FYI on Tuesdays public meeting.
Have a good weekend.

Mike

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Cirian, Mike" <Cirian.Mike@epa.gov>
Date: April 6, 2016 at 12:51:05 PM MDT
To: "Vranka, Joe" <vranka.joe@epa.gov>
Cc: "Moler, Robert" <Moler.Robert@epa.gov>
Subject: Hot Topic

Hi Joe,

Here is the "Hot Topic" for last night's public meeting for CFAC.

The EPA held a public meeting at Columbia Falls city council chambers. It was well attended with about 40 local residents, congressional representation from Senator Tester's office and Congressman Zinke's office, one county commissioner, 2 city council members and the mayor and on reporter from the Flathead Beacon.

The purpose of the meeting was to update the public on the changes to personnel, EPA's new CIC, introduce ATSDR representatives, and the start of the field season to begin the RI/FS process. The main message was to help the community understand the difference between the ongoing demolition project being performed by CALBAG and under MDEQ regulation and the start of the RI/FS process being performed by CFAC/Glencore's contractors under the AOC with the EPA. The community has been struggling to understand the difference between the demo project and the site RI/FS process. CALBAG purchased the buildings/structures at the CFAC plant for demo and salvage rights to those buildings and structures.

After our presentation it seems the community understands the difference between the two projects and that the RI/FS will take up to 4 years +/-.

The one topic that keep returning is the Superfund listing. I would say the majority of the folks at the meeting oppose the listing, but there is a large portion of the community that is still in favor of listing the site. There was a very civil discussion about the process and most folks walked away greater understanding of the site and the NPL listing process. Questions that keep coming back is why not wait to list the site, who makes the decision and why would we list if the community doesn't want that. We explained the situation of "funding, potential other PRPs, delays etc." We let them know the region and HQ makes the decision based on the science, community input, congressional and state input. I think most understood that there are others who may not agree with their opinion, and carry as much weight in the decision.

The meeting ended with a thank you from some of the community leaders and members of the audience.

Robert,

Anything to add?

Mike

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